

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)

10. **(Currently Amended)** A process for preparing an isolated polypeptide comprising the following steps:
- (a) culturing, under suitable conditions to obtain the expression of said polypeptide, a host cell transformed or transfected with an expression vector comprising an isolated polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence ~~with at least 95% homology to the polynucleotide sequence~~ of SEQ. ID. NO. 9 or SEQ. ID. NO. 13 and having at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation, and
 - (b) isolating the polypeptide from the host cell cultures;
- wherein said isolated polypeptide has at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH, and wherein said isolated polypeptide is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.

Claims 11-22 **(Cancelled)**

23. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.
24. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.
25. **(Currently amended)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence ~~with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence~~ of SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
26. **(Previously presented)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 25.
27. **(Currently amended)** [[A]] An isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 26.

28. **(Previously presented)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 27 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.
29. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 28, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
30. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 25.
31. **(Currently amended)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence ~~with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence~~ of SEQ ID NO: 9, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
32. **(Previously presented)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 31.
33. **(Currently amended)** [[A]] An isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 32.
34. **(Previously presented)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 33 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.
35. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 34, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
36. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 31.
37. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11.
38. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12.

39. **(Currently amended)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence ~~with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence~~ of SEQ ID NO: 13, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
40. **(Previously presented)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 39.
41. **(Currently amended)** [[A]] An isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 40.
42. **(Previously presented)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 41 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.
43. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 42, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
44. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 39.